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## The Pacifican August 25, 2013

University of the Pacific

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# The Pacifican

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1908

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2013



## WELCOME CLASS OF 2017!

Hello, class of 2017, and welcome to University of the Pacific!

For the next four years, you're going to experience some of your highest highs, and some of your lowest lows. You're going to meet lifelong friends. You're going to discover whole new levels of stress, as well as the fun of all-nighters. You're going to learn how to take care of yourself, manage your time, handle your liquor, and build a résumé. You're going to grow up.

In short, you're going to college.

Everyone talks about the "college experience." However, what is it exactly?

It's not staying up until 5 a.m., partying all night, waking up feeling like P. Diddy, and brushing your teeth with a bottle of Jack. It's also not locking yourself in your dorm room, devoting yourself solely to your studies-only allowing yourself breaks for food-sleeping, class, and graduation.

The college experience is unique to each person. It's what you make of it.

In my first three years, I have found friends and partnerships, fallen in love, fallen out of love, become an expert on ramen cuisine, pulled three all-nighters, gotten wonderful internships, used those internships to advance my career light-years ahead, discovered the joys of commuting, and become the editor-in-chief of a college newspaper.

I also didn't go to Convocation and was fifteen minutes late for my first class. So, if you do the opposite, you're already two steps ahead of me.

One part that is for certain though is that you have to be smart. Not just book smart, but common sense smart. If you're worried about the dangers of Stockton, don't go driving around downtown at 2 a.m. If you want to get better grades, don't stay up playing Mario Kart or going on Facebook for four hours.

If you want to meet people, make friends, and have fun, go outside. Talk to classmates. Join a

club. Go to a game. Be social.

This is the kind of sense you're going to need when you graduate and enter the (cue dramatic music) real world. Don't treat college like your last chance to be a kid. It's practice for the kind of practical skills and habits you need to build as an adult.

When it came time for me to choose which college to attend, it was between Pacific and another school (which shall remain anonymous). I was set on going to the other school and scheduled a visit. However, the visit did not solidify my decision, but reversed it altogether.

It was, in the words of a school administrator, overcrowded and underfunded. I would not have much one-on-one time with my professors. I would have a tough time getting into clubs and school organizations. I would sit on the floor if I didn't arrive fifteen minutes early for class.

In stark contrast, Pacific was everything I wanted in a school. Pacific is not a big school, but it sure isn't small either. Everything's within walking distance, and you never really need to leave campus. It's also absolutely gorgeous.

For the most part, professors make their office hours advertised and welcome students in anytime. Classes are really the same size, if not smaller, than high school classes. Opportunities to expand your horizons, open your mind, and join clubs, teams and organizations are everywhere.

It may be very expensive, perhaps more than is should be, but Pacific is a school that can definitely provide you with the "college experience".

Finally, have fun. College is supposed to be fun (there's a reason people call it the best years of your life). If you're not enjoying yourself, then what's the point?

Pacificanly,

*Ruben Dominguez*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Pacific Media Relations

Be sure to explore all our campus has to offer. From the brick architecture and the abundant plants to the modern Baun Fitness center, our campus has lots of different views and purposes for you to take in.



Powercat, Pacific's mascot, waving a giant flag at a basketball game in the Alex G. Spanos Center.

Pacific Media Relations



# Going from living at home to living in a dorm room

**Ruben Dominguez**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For those freshmen moving into the dorms before the school year starts, this is a very momentous and possibly scary time.

For all (or nearly) of your life, you've lived with your guardians at home. They've taken care of you, fed you, clothed you, put a roof over your head, and bought most of what you needed or wanted.

But now, for what is probably the first time in your adult lives, you are not living with your parents. You are on your own, just you and your roommate trying to figure out how to live on your own and take care of yourselves. Sitting around watching TV or getting some food at The Lair usually begins that process.

Eventually, you have to face reality. You must grow up and learn what's required for life after school.

The first sign that you're really on your own is that old familiar feeling in your gut. Not the one that makes you feel sad or nervous, but the one that means you need some food.

It'll probably be sometime around 8-9 p.m. when you're on your computer or listening to music. You'll suddenly realize that you haven't had anything to eat in like ten hours, or even all day.

Yes, you have to continually remind yourself of even the simplest concepts, like eating so you can continue to live.

Another signal is the first time you throw an article of clothing on the floor, only for it to remain there, exactly where you put it.

Your mother isn't here to pick up your clothes or do your laundry. Everything that you spill or throw on the ground stays there until you pick it up. It's the laws of physics.

So you have to learn how to properly use a hamper, or what exactly a hamper is. You have to learn how to do laundry. That can be complicated, so unless you're an expert or a real adult, don't attempt anything unless you've consulted with someone who knows what they're doing. Don't be afraid to ask. You don't want to find your favorite white shirt turned pink because you'd left a red glove in the wash.

Cleanliness in general is the most common principle people have to learn. This means regularly showering and bathing. No going commando or skipping showers because you feel like it.

Guys, no gal likes to see your dirty underwear on the ground, or a half-eaten Doritos bag all over your desk, or rooms smelling like Axe.

Gals, organization is key.



Cosmopolitan UK

Clothes: they belong in your closet, drawer or hamper--not the floor.

You have a lot of items, much more than guys, and they tend to clutter. Organization is good. Clutter is bad.

Finally, you need to learn how to be a good neighbor. Don't be that person who blares music at 2 a.m. when others are trying to sleep or study. Don't keep your roommate up with video games or computer activities. Don't ask your roommate at 11 p.m. to sleep somewhere else

for the night because you've brought a special someone back to your place.

Treat other dorms like you wish other people treated yours.

Most of all though, have fun. College is exciting and so is living on your own. For the first time, you decide what you do and how you spend your time. Just make sure not to waste it.

## Pacific's *Bold* Future



President Eibeck

Invites faculty, staff and students to her

### Welcome Back Town Hall

Thursday, August 29, 2013

12:00–1:30 pm • Grace Covell Hall

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Watch it live on the webcast:  
[go.Pacific.edu/Webcast](http://go.Pacific.edu/Webcast)



# Helpful tips for surviving the first day of class

Nicole Felkins  
COPY EDITOR

The first day of class can be terrific, or it can be a nightmare. Thankfully, with a little preparation and thinking you can breeze right through it. Keep these tips in mind to help make your first day a piece of cake.

1. Grab a seat in the front. It is easier to see the board and the smart choice is sure to impress any professor.

2. Arrive to class early. Not only will it convey your punctuality, but you will also be more likely to get the seat (and parking spot) of your choice. You will have the chance to talk to your new classmates and professor and exchange phone numbers with a classmate. Some tests are easier to prepare for with a study buddy, and if you miss class, he or she can lend you that day's notes!

3. Pay attention to your courses' syllabi. Here you will find the assignments the professor expects to be completed, his or her grading method, and other information needed to succeed in the course. Be sure to bring them to class with you each day. You can keep track of

the class' schedule and have it handy any time the professor changes it.

4. Chat with your fellow classmates. The classroom is a perfect place to make new friends, and they can be invaluable during your college experience. For students interested in informal recruitment, befriending a classmate that's a member of a Greek organization you're interested in is a great start.

5. Begin your homework. Even though homework is the last thing a student wants to do on the first day of school, it is very wise to do so. It frees up more time to have fun the next day. You do not want to get lost in the nefarious cycle of procrastination on your first day of class by delaying your homework. When you commit to doing your homework or reading ahead the very first day of class, you are helping to create a beneficial cycle that can improve your grades and save you from unnecessary stress down the road.

6. Bring your laptop or tablet for note taking. Although you might not know the professor's policy on electronics, it is a good idea to have a laptop or tablet in case your professor lectures.

You will not get in trouble for bringing one on the first day if the professor does not allow them, and it could save you from the hassle of typing it later. If you think having it in class is too much of a distraction, then it is best to leave it at home. However, having a laptop or tablet in class can be valuable for taking organized notes that you can back up, viewing assigned readings, etc.

7. Chill out! Being nervous is totally normal, but if you are too nervous, it will make your first day of class a whole lot tougher. Professors usually go easy on students the first day, so even if you are the student that arrived fifteen minutes late, it is okay, for you have the rest of the semester to show Pacific what you got!

As cliché as it sounds, probably the most important tip is making sure you get enough sleep the night before. Not only will you be more focused, but also you will be in a much better mood to make friends and impress your professors. Remember, some of your professors will be the ones you ask for letters of recommendation, so try to be the most professional Tiger you can be! Now, good luck!



Also, learn how to optimally use desk space. As you get bigger and older, desk space gets smaller.

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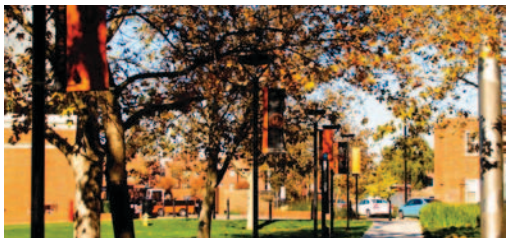
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Health

One of these is your enemy. The other is your friend. Learn how to use both because you don't want to waste either.

## THE PACIFICAN



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# Going Greek at Pacific

**Nicole Felkins**  
COPY EDITOR

For many, a meaningful college experience involves joining a Greek organization. Regardless of the type of organization it is—social or professional—it enriches the lives of many students on campus. At Pacific, there are six social fraternities and seven social sororities for a total of thirteen Greek chapters. In fact, social Greek-letter organizations are one of the largest student groups on campus. Each chapter belongs to one of three governing bodies: the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Association, or the Multicultural Greek Council.

The Panhellenic Council, the largest women's organization on campus, is comprised of Alpha Phi, Delta Delta Delta, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Delta Gamma. Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi, Pi Kappa Alpha, and Theta Chi belong to the Interfraternity Council. The Multicultural Greek Council is made up of Delta Sigma Theta, Gamma Alpha Omega, Omega Delta

Phi, Rho Delta Chi, and Xi Chi Sigma (which was actually founded at Pacific in 2003). Not all Greek organizations have a living facility on campus, so check out Pacific's website to find out.

Professional organizations are a wonderful alternative to social Greek organizations. Many are exclusive to certain majors; for example, Omega Eta Epsilon, founded by two Pacific students in 2011, is for students who major or minor in a language. Joining a professional organization can be a great opportunity to further your professional career.

Greek organizations value academic success, so members must meet a certain GPA requirement, but it is pretty low. They also emphasize community service and philanthropy, so they host many fundraising and community service events throughout the year. There are

also opportunities to gain a leadership position in your Greek organization.

In addition to all the professional and social benefits of joining a Greek organization, it may just be the perfect addition to your college experience.



**Pacific Media Relations**  
The Delta Delta Delta sorority house is one of four sorority houses on campus.



## WEST COAST CONFERENCE

Wikipedia

After leaving for the Big West Conference in 1971, Pacific is finally back in the West Coast Conference.

## Returning to a West Coast state of mind

**Drew Jones**  
SPORTS EDITOR

As Pacific embarks on a new school year, they also enter into a new intercollegiate athletic conference. After 32 years of participating in the Big West Conference, the Tigers make the jump into the West Coast Conference (WCC) to compete against other big-time private schools.

Pacific was a founding member of the WCC in 1952 along with four other schools, but entered into the Big West in 1969 for football and for all other sports in 1971. Unfortunately, Pacific let go of the football program after the 1995 season, but all other sports remained and competed in the Big West. In March of 2012, Pacific formally accepted the WCC's invitation into the conference and became the 10th member of the allegiance.

With a new conference comes new competition, and this year the Tigers will face nine other independent institutions: Brigham Young University from Provo, Utah; Gonzaga University from Spokane, Wash.; Loyola Marymount University from Los Angeles, Calif.; Pepperdine University from Malibu, Calif.; University of Portland from Portland, Ore.; Saint Mary's College from Moraga, Calif.; University of San Diego from San Diego, Calif.; University of San Francisco

from San Francisco, Calif.; and Santa Clara University from Santa Clara, Calif.

The WCC is largely known for its intense competition in basketball, with Gonzaga, BYU, and Saint Mary's being the biggest power players. However, Pacific can also be recognized as another dominant power because of their Big West Conference title and berth into the NCAA March Madness tournament last year.

Soccer, both women's and men's, is also one of the strongest sports in this conference. The WCC holds nine national titles between men's and women's soccer. Pacific's women's soccer team has already begun their work by conditioning and practicing before the school year has even started. Last year was a rebuilding and learning year for the Tigers, but they look forward to proving themselves against their new opponents. Also, Pacific will add an intercollegiate men's soccer program that will start competing in 2014.

It is exciting. After decades of competing in the Big West Conference it's exciting to finally get the opportunity to travel to different places and face great new competition. Pacific looks to dominate in all sports this year by showing that the orange and black is a force to be reckoned with! Have a great year in sports Tigers!

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